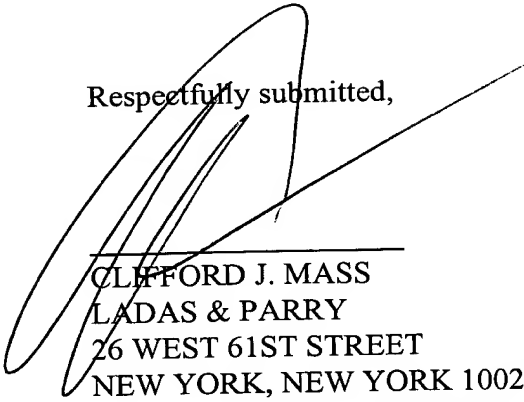


Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132 of the inventor, Masahiro Yatake. The Declaration shows that the ink compositions 5-8, described in the specification of the present application at pages 21-23, are unexpectedly superior in each of two (2) properties, print quality and anti-clogging property, as compared to the ink compositions 1-4, described in the specification at pages 20-22. As can be seen from the descriptions in the specification, each of the ink compositions 5-8 comprises glycerin, as required in the claims as amended by the Amendment dated June 1, 2004, whereas the ink compositions 1-4 do not.

Applicant respectfully submits that, in addition to claiming priority from an application that antedates the effective date as a reference of EP 1010802, Applicant can overcome the reference by virtue of the evidence of unexpectedly advantageous results shown in the attached Declaration. In particular, Applicant respectfully notes that, although the reference mentions the possibility of including an organic solvent such as glycerin in the ink compositions described therein, glycerin is only one of many possible organic solvents disclosed, along with, for example, diethylene glycol and dipropylene glycol (see EP 1010802 at paragraph 34 on page 6). However, ink compositions 1-4 include these latter solvents and yet, as discussed above, do not provide the advantageous results of ink compositions 5-8 which contain glycerin. It is respectfully submitted that these results could not have been expected from the cited reference and should be considered as unexpected and sufficient to rebut any alleged *prima facie* case of obviousness set forth by the cited reference.

An early and favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is again respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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